

HOUSING AUTHORITY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JOEL A. GONZALEZ
(956) 585-9747

OF THE CITY OF MISSION

BOARD MEMBERS
ROMEO DE LA GARZA
GUADALUPE OZUNA
RICARDO GARCIA
IRMA FLORES LOPEZ
CONNIE GARZA

September 6, 2019

Honorable Mayor Dr. Armando Ocana
City of Mission
1201 East 8th Street
Mission, Texas 78572

RE: OPEN LETTER TO CITY OF MISSION MAYOR

Dear Mayor Ocana:

I would like to inform you that your two appointed Commissioners (Ms. Irma Flores-Lopez and Ms. Connie Garza) have forced the Housing Authority to end services of transportation to our Elderly for doctor visits, groceries, banks and also end meals to our Elderly residents of Palm Plaza. It is our understanding that in accordance with Triple "A" and the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, any place where Amigos del Valle serves food, no one over the age of 60, can be denied a meal if they request one. This includes non-residents. Currently approximately (40 +) Elderly are provided a meal at noon and (5) Elderly are from our surrounding community. The action taken by both Commissioners in the Regular Commissioner Meeting on Aug. 21, and Sept. 3, 2019 Special Board Meeting, both Commissioners Flores-Lopez and Garza have motioned to end such services that have been in existence for more than 30 years. Along with this action we are releasing (3) part time employees by 9/30/19 that are totally paid by these program funds.

To maintain transparency we must inform each and every member of our Elderly Residents and non residents affected by this action as to what caused the termination of services to them and where they can proceed to file a complaint.

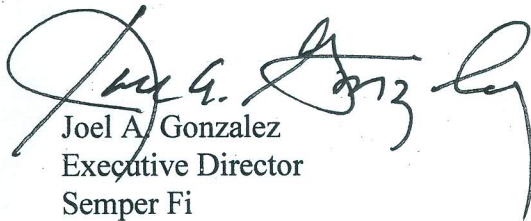
Be also informed that Ms. Connie Garza first came with the idea of cancelling services because of a conversation a HUD Staff member had with her. We at this time don't know how factual this information is because we contacted HUD, they reviewed all information of the Triple "A" Program and had no problem for the Mission Housing Authority to continue providing such services.

Such services will expire, if no further action is taken, on 9/30/19. **I believe that there is still time to reverse this action if you so agree.** However, you must have both Commissioner Irma Flores Lopez and Commissioner Connie Garza proceed with the request for an Emergency Meeting so as our Triple "A" Grant of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) will still be granted by Oct. 1, 2019.

I am advising the entire Mission City Council, of this situation, due to the fact that the selection of these two Board Members to the Mission Housing Authority Board were done in a City Council Meeting and both names were introduced by Councilwoman Ms. Jessica Ochoa, which the selection met with your approval.

You may also consider withdrawing the two(2) Commissioners appointment and reappoint new individuals with a more civil and knowledgeable approach in dealing with the Mission Housing Authority activities and main mission of providing safe, decent affordable housing to our Community.

Sincerely,



Joel A. Gonzalez
Executive Director
Semper Fi

cc: Romeo De La Garza - Mission Housing Authority Chairman
Nori Garza - Mayor Pro Temp
Ruben Plata - Councilman
Alberto Vela - Councilman
Jessica Ochoa - Councilwoman
Progress Times